



## MIC3 Information

The Council of State Governments (CSG), in cooperation with the US Department of Defense, drafted the Interstate Compact to address some of the educational challenges transitioning children of military families face. The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) was adopted by the Montana legislature through SB203 in 2013.

MIC3's purpose is to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families. Through the Interstate Compact key educational transition issues encountered by children of military families are addressed.

While the Compact is not exhaustive in its coverage, it does address the key issues encountered by military families: eligibility, enrollment, placement and graduation. In addition, the Compact provides for a detailed governance structure at both the state and national levels with built-in enforcement and compliance mechanisms.

The goal of the Compact is to replace the widely varying policies affecting transitioning military students. The Compact addresses key educational transition issues encountered by military families including enrollment, placement, attendance, eligibility, and graduation.

- 1,478 Montana military connected students in public schools
- 5,482 National Guard and Reserve service members residing in Montana as of July 1, 2021
- 6,982 National Guard and Reserve dependents between ages 0-18.
- 2,623 military spouses currently reside in Montana.
- All 50 states are part of the compact

The Montana Office of Public Instruction and the Montana Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission adopted the Purple Star School Program. The Purple Star School Award program is not an initiative of the MIC3 but many states, including Montana, have included training on the MIC3 as part of the requirements for a school seeking the Purple Star designation. MIC3 accepts applications for the Purple Star School Designation and nominations for Purple Star Champion Award in the fall of each year. These awards recognize military-friendly schools and individuals that have shown a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military. Schools that earn the award will receive a special Purple Star recognition to display onsite in honor of students of Military families. This designation lasts for three years, when a reapplication process is encouraged. The fall of 2022 will be the inaugural class of awardees opportunity for reapplication.



**2020-2021 Purple Star Schools**  
**Glacier High School**  
**Kalispell, MT**

**Loy Elementary**  
**Great Falls, MT**

**North Middle School**  
**Great Falls, MT**

**CMR High School**  
**Great Falls, MT**

**Valley Christian School**  
**Missoula, MT**

**2021-2022 Purple Star Schools**  
**Great Falls Central Catholic High School**  
**Great Falls, MT**

**Holy Spirit Catholic High School**  
**Great Falls, MT**

**Morningside Elementary**  
**Great Falls, MT**

**Flathead High School**  
**Kalispell, MT**

**Ben Steele Middle School**  
**Billings, MT**

**Townsend School District**

**2021-2022 Purple Star Champions**

**Jennifer Bernhart**  
**Missoula (Community Supporter)**

**Hunter Jones**  
**Billings (Educator)**

**Joe Ferda**  
**Great Falls (US Air Guard and Community Supporter)**

**Kim Ray**  
**Great Falls (Principal)**